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NSC BRIEFING

18 December 1954

OFFSHORE ISLANDS

- I. Situation in islands very quiet for past three weeks.
 - A. Sporadic shelling of Ichiang (north of Tachens) and Quemoy continues, and Communist planes still patrol over Tachens.
 - B. Heavy seas and winter monsoons will make attacks difficult, but there is still possibility of invasion of Quemoy or other islands close to coast.
- II. Chinese Communists taking steps to improve capabilities for future operations against islands, and possibly Formosa.
 - A. Roads in Fukien (opposite Formosa) being improved to ease problem of logistics in area where there are no railroads and where sea supply cannot be guaranteed.

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